

Stuttgart boxers capture five titles at U.S. Forces tourney



For complete tournament results see page 10.

Staff Sgt. Edward Garcia (right) of 1/10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) squares off against Grafenwoehr's Carlos Lebron April 29 in a light heavyweight match. Garcia was one of five Stuttgart-area boxers who won titles during the U.S. Forces Europe Boxing Championship held in the Patch Fitness Center.

Brandon Beach

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Kindermusik gives kids something to sing about

Stuttgart's Child and Youth Services' SKIES program has a full lineup of classes this summer including Kindermusik summer camps starting in June.



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Stuttgart Rugby wins regional league title

The Stuttgart Rugby Club seized the Baden-Württemberg league title with a perfect 10-0 record. Americans played a key role in the team's run at the crown.



May is Asian-Pacific-American Heritage Month

Month celebrates many cultural contributions of individuals who help make America great

By Michael E. Dukes
Commentary

The United States is a nation founded by and made up of immigrants. In May, Asian-Pacific-Americans – a group of people who make up about 5 percent of the U.S. population – celebrate their rich heritage.

They are Chinese, Filipino, Korean, Indian, Vietnamese and others from the Asian-Pacific region of the world.

Some trace their roots back many generations of Asian Americans, while others represent the first in their families to come to America seeking a better life.

“Through the years, Asian immigrants and Pacific islanders have enriched the American way of life,” said President George W. Bush in a statement on the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Web site.

“Nobel Prize winner Dr. Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar’s ground-breaking theories on the evolution of stars helped lay the foundation for modern astrophysics,” Bush said. “Actress Anna May Wong was one of the first Asian Americans to achieve great fame in American film.

And the men of the 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team, composed primarily of Asian-Pacific Americans, valiantly served our nation during World War II. These units are remembered as some of the most highly decorated in U.S. military history.”

Asian-Pacific-American Heritage Month celebrates the cultural traditions, ancestry, native languages and unique experiences represented among the more than 30 ethnic groups from Asia and the Pacific found here in the U.S., the president said.

Rocky beginnings

May has historic significance for many Asian Pacific

More than 300,000 Asian Pacific Americans are U.S. military veterans. Of those numbers, 32 have earned the Medal of Honor.

Americans. On May 10, 1869, America’s first transcontinental railroad was completed – a task made possible largely by the contributions and sacrifices of Chinese immigrants who laid the tracks. And May 7, 1843, marked the first Japanese immigration to the U.S.

Similar to the current-day debate regarding the U.S. “immigration crisis,” Americans of the 1800s feared too many Asian immigrants were coming to America. Many Americans felt they were being “overwhelmed” by the large numbers of Chinese immigrants.

Anti-Chinese riots erupted in Los Angeles and other cities in 1871. Laws were created denying citizenship for Asian-Pacific immigrants.

Trials toward citizenship

Most Asian Pacific Americans were denied U.S. citizenship until World War I. On June 24, 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt granted citizenship to 500 Asian Americans after they served in the U.S. armed forces during World War I despite the fact that they did not enjoy full freedom entitled by the Constitution.

After Japan bombed Pearl Harbor in 1941, more than 100,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry were placed in

internment camps. Yet none of them were found guilty of espionage or treason against the U.S.

The race barrier began to be torn down for Asian Pacific Americans in the 1950s.

House Joint Resolution 10007 officially recognized Asian-Pacific-American Heritage Week in 1978, and in 1990, President George H. W. Bush proclaimed May as Asian Pacific Heritage Month.

In 2004, there were about 14 million Asian Pacific Americans living in the United States, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Today, more than 300,000 Asian Pacific Americans are U.S. military veterans. Of those numbers, 32 have earned the Medal of Honor.

Dukes writes for The Stripe at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. This commentary originally appeared online at the Army News Web site (www.army.mil/arnews).

The Stuttgart and Garmisch military communities have a slew of events scheduled throughout May to recognize Asian Pacific Heritage Month. See the back page of The Citizen for the complete calendar.

Military spouses stand apart, together

By Col. Steven Arrington
Commentary

Over the years, I’ve talked a lot about military spouses: How special they are and the price they pay for freedom, too. The funny thing about it, is most military spouses don’t consider themselves different from other spouses.

They do what they have to do, bound together not by blood or merely friendship, but with a shared spirit whose origin is in the very essence of what love truly is.

Is there truly a difference? I think there is. You have to decide for yourself.

Other spouses get married and look forward to building equity in a home and putting down family roots. Military spouses get married and know they’ll live in base housing or rent, and their roots must be short, so they can be transplanted frequently.

Other spouses decorate a home with flair and personality that will last a lifetime. Military spouses decorate a home with flare tempered with the knowledge that no two base houses have the same size windows or same size rooms. Curtains have to be flexible and multiple sets are a plus. Furniture must fit like puzzle pieces!

Other spouses have living rooms that are immaculate and seldom used. Military spouses have immaculate living room/dining room combos. The coffee table got a scratch or two moving from Germany, but it still looks pretty good.

Other spouses say goodbye to their spouse for a business trip and know they won’t see them for a week. They are lonely, but can survive. Military spouses say goodbye to their deploying spouse and know they won’t see them for months, or for a remote, a year. They are lonely, but will survive.

Other spouses get used to saying “hello” to friends they see all the time. Military spouses get used to saying “good-bye” to friends made the last two years.

Other spouses worry about whether their child will be class president next year. Military spouses worry about whether their child will be accepted in yet another new school next year and whether that school will be the worst in the city again.

Other spouses can count on spouse participation in special events such as birthdays, anniversaries, concerts, football games, graduation, and even the birth of a child.

Military spouses only count on each other, because they realize that the Flag has to come first if freedom is to survive.

It has to be that way.

Other spouses put up yellow ribbons when the troops are imperiled across the globe and take them down when the troops come home. Military spouses wear yellow ribbons on their hearts and they never go away.

Other spouses worry about being late for Mom’s Thanksgiving dinner. Military spouses worry about getting back from Japan in time for Dad’s funeral.

And other spouses are touched by the television program showing an elderly lady putting a card down in front of a long, black wall that has names on it. The card simply says “Happy Birthday, Sweetheart. You would have been sixty today.” A military spouse is the lady with the card. And the wall is the Vietnam memorial.

I would never say military spouses are better or worse than other spouses are. But I will say there is a difference. Our country asks more of military spouses than is asked of other spouses. Military spouses pay just as high a price for freedom as do their active-duty husbands or wives.

Perhaps the price they pay is even higher. Dying in service to our country isn’t near as hard as loving someone who has died in service to our country, and having to live without them.

God bless our military spouses for all they freely give!

Arrington wrote this commentary while serving at Nellis Air Force Base. It was provided to The Citizen by the 1st Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group, Family Readiness Group.

THE CITIZEN

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www.stuttgart.army.mil

Garrison hosts Army chaplain during Days of Remembrance on Kelley

USAG Stuttgart
Public Affairs Office

The Stuttgart military community honored the victims of the Holocaust during a "Days of Remembrance" ceremony April 24 in the Kelley Barracks Community Club.

This year's observance, "Children in Crisis: Voices of the Holocaust," recognized the one million Jewish children who were killed as a result of World War II.

Diana Duncan, lay leader for the Stuttgart Jewish community, opened the ceremony by reading excerpts from Anne Frank's "Diary of a Young Girl."

"It's a wonder I haven't abandoned all my ideals. They seem so absurd and impractical. I believe people are truly good at heart," writes Frank.

Following the reading, Chaplain Lt. Col. Thomas Preston of U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart introduced the event's guest speaker, Chaplain (Col.) Jacob Goldstein, as a "legend within the Army Chaplain Corps. He has been involved in every crisis situation our nation has faced since 1983."

Most recently, Goldstein served in several Gulf Coast states helping the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Nearly six years ago, Goldstein stood at Ground Zero, the site of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in New York City. He was the first chaplain to arrive on scene.

"I walked in dust and ash, literally ankle deep. I remember thinking: 'This is the dust and ash of people murdered in those buildings,'" he said. "I stayed on site for five months, six days and 11 hours. I look at that as service, not a prison sentence."

Goldstein's parents were both Holocaust survivors who immigrated to the United States after the end of the war in 1945. Years later, as a young boy, Goldstein recounted a story in which he asked his parents why he didn't have any relatives.

"My father would never speak about the war. It was too raw. My mother would tell me, 'When you get older, you will understand,'" he said.

For Goldstein, Sept. 11, 2001 opened

'I walked in dust and ash, literally ankle deep. I remember thinking: 'This is the dust and ash of people murdered in those buildings.'

Col. Jacob Goldstein
Army Chaplain

the horrors his parents kept locked inside.

"At Ground Zero, I connected," he said. "Here I was walking where human remains once existed. In a moment, in a flash, they were gone."

Goldstein currently serves as assistant commissioner of housing for the state of New York. Additionally, he serves as chaplain with the U.S. Secret Service.

Goldstein began his military career in 1977 as a first lieutenant with the 101st Signal Battalion. In 1983, he was called to active duty for Operation Urgent Fury in Grenada where he served with the 18th Airborne Corps.

"We must never allow the world to turn an eye, to forget, not to care," concluded Goldstein. "That is the lesson of the Holocaust."

At the close of the ceremony, Col. Kenneth G. Juergens, commander of USAG Stuttgart, presented Goldstein with a plaque of appreciation and a commander's coin.

In his closing remarks, Juergens spoke about the 38 Jewish victims found last year at Stuttgart's U.S. Army Airfield as a reminder of the horrors of the Holocaust. He challenged the students from Robinson Barracks Elementary/Middle School who were in attendance to visit the



Chaplain (Col.) Jacob Goldstein recounted his experiences at Ground Zero during the USAG Stuttgart 'Days of Remembrance' ceremony April 24 in the Kelley Barracks Community Club.

Holocaust memorials and concentration camps located throughout Europe.

"Take advantage of the opportunity to see history and share your experiences with friends in the States," he said.

Also in attendance during the ceremony were Chaplain Col. James Agnew of 5th Signal Command Group, Arno Sern and Werner Meier, both of the Israelite Religious Community Württemberg.

A variety of Kosher foods was served during the ceremony.

News & Notes

Help our Wounded Warriors

The Stuttgart chapter of "Sew Much Comfort" gives all community members an opportunity to assist wounded service members during their recovery and rehabilitation. The group creates, collects and provides adaptive clothing that fits comfortably over medical devices such as casts and prosthetics.

For information visit www.sewmuchcomfort.org.

Supply Drive for Fischer House

The Stuttgart-area Girl Scouts are collecting supplies for the Landstuhl Fisher House. Items needed include paper products such as plates, napkins, cups, towels and toilet paper; plastic utensils; cleaning supplies and office supplies.

Collection sites are located at chapels, Shoppettes and commissaries on all Stuttgart-area installations, and in the AAFES "Mall for All" on Panzer Kaserne.

For a full list of needed items visit <http://www.stuttgart.army.mil/sites/services/girlscouts.asp>.

Shuttle Bus Service Change

The Stuttgart Shuttle Bus Service has changed operating hours. New schedules have been posted at all the bus stops. The new schedule provides more frequent runs between the installations and includes additional direct runs between Robinson Barracks and Panzer Kaserne.

For more information on the new shuttle schedules call Ray Eden at 421-2472 or 0711-729-2472.

New hours for Kelley Legal Office

Beginning July 1, the Kelley Legal Assistance Office will offer the following opening hours for legal services: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m.

The office will be closed from 12:15 to 1 p.m. Legal assistance is always closed on Thursdays. For more information, call 421-4152 or 0711-729-4152.

Army Ball tickets now on sale

Tickets for the 2007 Army Ball are now available. Contact your unit representative or the EUCOM Headquarters Commandant's office at 430-8217 or 0711-680-8217.

The Army Ball will be held Saturday, June 9 at 6 p.m. in the Sindelfingen Stadthalle.

Become tobacco free

The Stuttgart Wellness Center, in Washington Center, Patch Barracks, is offering a six-week tobacco cessation class Thursdays, noon to 1 p.m. from May 17 until June 21. To sign up, call the Stuttgart Community Health Nurse at 430-7122 or 0711-680-7122.

PES hosts art show

The "See For Yourself Watercolor Art Show," presented by Mrs. Kloss's Fourth Grade Patch Elementary School students, will be held May 24, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., in the Patch High School Forum.

In addition to displayed artwork, landscapes, flowers, self-portraits and student poetry, the evening will feature appetizers, prepared by the fourth grade student cooks, drinks and student harpists.



USAG Stuttgart & Garmisch

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Kelley Theatre garners six awards at Toppers

Stuttgart actor recounts life on the stage, bids farewell

By Antonio Brunetti
Commentary

Once again, I found myself boarding the "fun bus" en route to Heidelberg for the annual IMCOM-E Topper Awards ceremony April 21.

There was, of course, some incentive for me to go. I performed the role of Benjamin Braddock in Stuttgart Theatre Center's production of "The Graduate," and the show was judged and up for several awards. After attending the ceremony last year, I knew the possibilities this night could afford, so I wasn't going to miss it. I suppose I can admit wanting to satisfy my vanity (what if I win something!), but it wasn't the only reason.

After rehearsing the show for over a month, you tend to develop a relationship with your fellow actors. Friendships are formed. I can certainly attest to that, after being an actor for a year and a half with the Kelley Theatre. Now, what better reason is there to dress up, wine and dine with these same actors and wait to see what other theater people think of you? Take that vibe and multiply it by 40, and you get an idea of the atmosphere at the gala in Heidelberg's Village Pavilion Ballroom.

Road to the Toppers

Three "Topper" judges visit each theater in IMCOM-Europe. This happens sometime in February, for that is generally when theaters perform their submitted pieces. This takes them from England all the way to Turkey, and everywhere in between.

As for the judges, these are not just people who happen to like theater. They are all working theater professionals with other duties, and they tell it like it is. Yes, they critique. And they are honest. And the actors get to hear all about it. Some may say they are brutal, but their intention is to teach and help, regardless of how they may pick on one particular actor and his or her faults. But they acknowledge and applaud the efforts and hard work of everyone involved. How can they not, when they already know how many hours we put into it ... without pay.

To work hard on a show and have a chance to be recognized for it is a reward in itself. That's what makes this ceremony special. It's a big, huge 'thank you.' And boy do they know how to say thanks. Ever seen the Oscars? This is the same thing ... without speeches. And we don't even know if we're nominated!

Suspense abounds this evening as the guests are teased with a first-act of Broadway numbers, special performances, and winners of all sides of the theater: Costumes, lighting, programs, stage-managing. All the things theaters need to survive, yet not the glamorous stars. But a reason to cheer anyway.

Kelley Theatre wins big

Stuttgart did quite well, taking best costume design by the irreplaceable Jennifer Vollmer; best sound design by Alan Buxkemper; best lighting design by Hoelger Schroeder; and, best stage managers - a trophy each for Raqi Barnett and Deb Stevens.

It's this last award that exemplifies the importance of the Toppers for morale. The fact that the judges get the details on what goes on back-stage confirms the legitimacy. Few are aware of what it takes to stage-manage a show. Seeing it myself firsthand, it can involve such things as making sure glasses are filled with something that looks like alcohol, to fixing my hair as I got dressed because there wasn't enough time until the next scene, to helping me squeeze into a wet-suit.

I say it's a thrill to perform, subsidizes the lack of pay, but think about the ones who are not on stage and volunteering their time. I think this is what makes Kelley Theatre a special place to spend time in.

This commitment to excellence and nurturing of talent has inevitably led to quite a reputation and high standard of quality for the Stuttgart Theatre Center. I can attest to this



The cast of "The Graduate" celebrate their Topper awards during the annual Tournament of Plays award ceremony April 21 in Heidelberg's Village Pavilion Ballroom.

quality, having taken in part in five productions myself. Even the set design (of which Brett Harwood was nominated for) has high importance. We as actors know, because we are there on Saturdays, building sets. We even have a few "dutching" experts because of it. Dutching!?!

Every show at the theater exceeds expectations through hard work, and just plain old wanting to look good! Representing itself quite well over the years, it has a trophy shelf to boast about. They outdid themselves last year, garnering 12 awards for a single show in "Urinetown."

This year the theater had another great showing, taking home six glamorous golden figures, including one, Outstanding Command Support for Col. Kenneth G. Juergens, commander of USAG Stuttgart. That speaks volumes to what the theater is, and what it will remain for many years to come.

Stuttgart nominated

So onto the performance awards. This is what every actor there waits to hear about. What makes it even more suspenseful is no one knows even who the nominees are. It's quite a titillating experience, something hard to describe, and even harder to forget. Just to hear mention of your name as a nominee can be a thrill.

Take for example, Karen Eckman-Baur, who played Mrs. Braddock in "The Graduate." The show was Karen's first, and she was thrilled to just be a part of it. But when she heard her name called as a nominee, for Best Supporting Actress in a Drama, her heart skipped a beat. She said, "I can't believe it! They noticed me?"

Although she didn't win the award, it doesn't take away from the joy we felt for her, nor what her effort on the stage was during the run of the show.

Besides Karen, Kip Caban was nominated for her role as Elaine in the same category. Best Actor in a Minor Role nomination went to James Merkle for his wonderfully snide Hotel Receptionist. There

was a Best Actress in a minor role nod for Raqi Barnett, who besides running the show from backstage, shimmied onto the stage for a brief but unforgettable moment as the cabaret dancer.

And of course Chantal Shurr, who played the irresistible Mrs. Robinson, was nominated for a Best Actress in a Drama award.

Heading home

As we boarded the bus (and the fun continued) for the ride home, I thought about my time with the Kelley Theatre. For indeed, I'm off to Chicago to try and "make it," and so "The Graduate" was my last performance in Stuttgart.

If I could have 100 trophies to give to everyone I've ever worked with on the Kelley stage, well, I would at least like to give one to Brett [director of Kelley Theatre] for giving me the chance to shine on stage. Not only for the chance to show my acting chops but the chance to meet so many great people. That's what I'll remember most.

I would also give a Topper to Judy Rosignuolo-Rice, our guest director for the show.

Besides everything she did for me, not to mention everything she put up with from me, it might sweeten my future prospects. She just happens to be a director in Chicago. Ah, how easily swayed we actors are.

Brunetti has been an actor with the Stuttgart Theatre Center for the last two years.

His performance as Benjamin Braddock in this year's production of "The Graduate" won him a Topper award for Best Actor in a Drama.

The Stuttgart Entertainment Branch presents

Disney

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ON STAGE!

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PERFORMANCES:

May 25 & 26	May 27
June 1, 8, 9, 15 & 16	June 2, 3, 9, 10, 16 & 17
at 1930	at 1500

Reservations can be made at the Stuttgart Entertainment Branch, Bldg. 3319 on Kelley Barracks, or by calling 0711-7292-825 or DSN: 4212-825. Box Office Hours: Tues.-Fri. 12:30-5:30 p.m. Children under 5 years of age cannot be admitted to any performance. Non-US military ID card holders MUST call with passport information at least one week prior to performance. Reservations can also be made online on our website at: www.kelleytheatre.de

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Garmisch volunteers lauded for service during May 2 ceremony in the Pete Burke Center

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

The members of the Garmisch military community who “inspire by example” were honored during a Volunteer Appreciation Day luncheon May 2 in the Pete Burke Center.

“This community could not function without the selfless service of our volunteers,” said U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart/Garmisch Commander Col. Kenneth G. Juergens, who later thanked Stephen Gauthier (D MRW) and his staff; Michael Lamprecht, the event’s overall coordinator; and, Liz Moore, the event’s master of ceremonies.

The following community members received awards, such as glass vases, commander’s coins and certificates, from Juergens and Karin Santos, manager of USAG Garmisch.

Commander’s Volunteer of the Year John Little

- This award is presented to an individual who selflessly donates time and energy toward the betterment of the entire Garmisch military community.

- Little serves with the Boy Scouts of America, Wonderful Wednesdays ski program and various youth sports teams. He was recognized for his positive attitude and enthusiasm.



Commander’s Silver Volunteer of the Year Warren Harris

- This award goes to a seasoned volunteer who continues to serve.

- A former Army first sergeant for 23 years, Harris was recognized for his service with the Army Europe Retiree Council. He is the only council representative in south Bavaria.



Commander’s Youth Volunteer of the Year Madeleine Gardiner

- This award goes to a volunteer who is under the age of 18.

- Gardiner helped run this year’s Vacation Bible Study program at Garmisch Chapel. She regularly teaches Religious Education classes and lectors during Mass.



Rookie Volunteer of the Year Suayn Moise

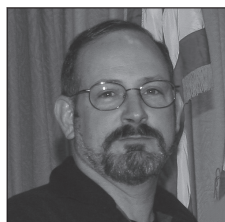
- This award is presented to a new community member.
- Moise is an active volunteer in planning and conducting many Child and Youth Services and Morale, Welfare and Recreation-sponsored events.



Helping Hand Volunteer of the Year Donald J. Peters, Jr.

- This award is presented to a volunteer who serves in a number of capacities.

- Peters’ service includes the Garmisch Men’s Bible Study, men’s prayer breakfast, mass casualty exercise, chapel music and the Helping Hands collection.



Unsung Volunteer of the Year Bridget Sweda

- This award is presented to a volunteer who eschews the spotlight.

- Sweda earned this award for her service in support of the Child and Youth Services sports programs and the School Advisory Council at Garmisch Elementary/Middle School.



Commander’s Volunteer Family of the Year The Lee Family

- This award recognizes a family who serves together.
- The Lee’s helped to establish Sunday School classes and various activities for local Protestant services in the Garmisch military community. They acted as Sunday School leaders for children’s services, ran the Men’s Bible Study and incorporated worship music for chapel service.

Ambassador Award Michael Buering

- This award recognizes an exceptional foreign national community member.
- Buering earned this award for his service in support of numerous German-American events such as the July 4th celebration and the Friendship Shoot “Schützenfest.”



photo by Tweedy Kneff

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart/Garmisch Commander Col. Kenneth G. Juergens (left) and Karin Santos (far right), manager of USAG Garmisch, accept an honorary check representing the amount of money volunteers have saved the community by donating their time and talent.

— And the nominees were —

The following individuals and family members were recognized for their volunteer service during Garmisch’s April May 2 Volunteer Appreciation Ceremony:

Michael Bill
Michael Buering
Lisa Carlson
Abigail Gardiner
Madeleine Gardiner
Warren Harris
Kassidee Kane
Laurel Kelly
Lee Family
Angela Lambert

John Little
Anthony McMahan
Suayn Moise
Gillian O’Hagan
Donald Peters
Chelsea Smithback
Bridget Szveda
Max Thom
Peter Thom

Volunteers essential to community’s success, ‘share time with others’

By Gen. David D. McKiernan

Many of our Soldiers are deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and the Global War on Terrorism. Their absence is often stressful for their loved ones, and several families have asked for help.

Many organizations – including Army Community Service, chapels, Child and Youth Services, DoDDS schools, and youth service organizations – are available to support families of deployed Soldiers.

These organizations, however, need volunteers to meet the increasing number of requests for assistance.

I ask all Soldiers in the European theater to help the families of deployed Soldiers by volunteering their time and assistance. Every Soldier can help, whether by coaching a youth sports team, serving as a youth service organization leader, running an errand for an overburdened

neighbor, or providing transportation for a family in need.

In addition to the service it provides to those in need, volunteerism provides tremendous personal satisfaction to the volunteer.

By sharing our time and skills with others, we become part of something bigger than ourselves. We also learn a lot and grow from the experience.

Because of this, our support, energy, and dedication can make a difference in someone’s life as well as our own.

Volunteerism is an investment in our communities and the people who live in them. Do something positive for yourself and your community – volunteer!

Please visit your Army Volunteer Corps coordinator for more details.

McKiernan is the commander of U.S. Army, Europe. This commentary originally appeared online at www.hqusaareur.army.mil.

Dietary supplements pose risk to readiness

Army seeks to ban dangerous over-the-counter products

Army Safety Center Release

A young Marine experienced cardiac arrest during a March 17 exercise and remains in a persistent vegetative state. A dangerous combination of dietary supplements found in his gym bag included: Lipo-6, Dicana, Speed Shot, Blaze and Nitro Shot.

Our Soldiers, like this Marine, are trying to enhance their performance to get stronger, faster and better-looking. Unfortunately, a lot of what is available on the market can be harmful and even deadly. What you don't know can hurt you! You'd be surprised at the number of cans of supplements in our Soldiers' trash can or outside the recreation areas.

Many dietary supplements marketed for performance enhancement and weight loss and some over-the-counter products (cold remedies) can be harmful when ingredients are combined. In particular, products containing caffeine, in combination with ephedra or ephedrine-like substances and aspirin (Willow bark), are of concern.

Also, numerous new "energy" drinks have potentially harmful substances when used in excess or as the only source of nutrition.

Possible side effects from such combinations include high blood pressure and abnormal heart rhythms. The use of this combination of substances may also put you at greater risk of becoming a heat casualty because they can cause dehydration.

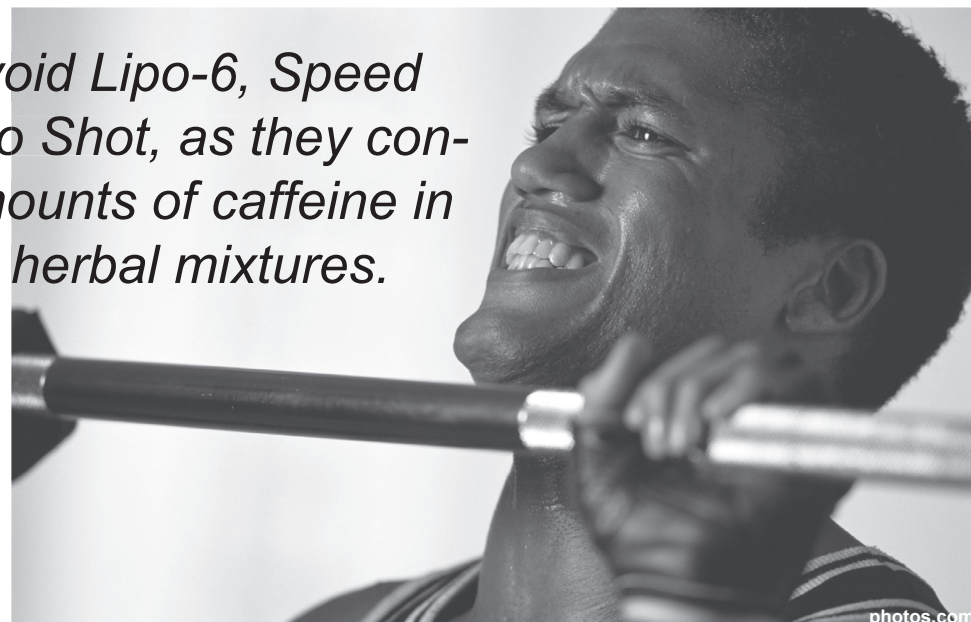
Soldiers should avoid Lipo-6, Speed Shot, Blaze and Nitro Shot, as they contain significant amounts of caffeine in combination with herbal mixtures.

Caffeine-containing substances include guarana, coffee, cocoa, green tea, black tea, oolong tea, cola nut and mate. Ephedrine-like substances include many cold remedies (pseudoephedrine), bitter orange/citrus aurantium (synephrine), country mallow, heartleaf and Ma Huang.

Despite the fact that ephedrine supplements have been banned for sale in the U.S., these products are still available internationally and illegally in the U.S. Reading the labels of all purchased dietary supplements and cold remedies is critical.

Soldiers should avoid Lipo-6, Speed Shot, Blaze and Nitro Shot, as they contain significant amounts of caffeine in combination with herbal mixtures. Soldiers should also consider the caffeine content of any foods and beverages that they are consuming in addition to these supplements.

It is recommended to avoid dietary supplements and other self-care products containing combinations of ephedrine-like



compounds, caffeine-containing substances and aspirin. Ensure your healthcare provider is aware of what dietary supplements and other self-care products you are using.

Individuals taking these substances should maintain hydration by drinking adequate fluids. Additional information can be found on Army Knowledge Online (www.us.army.mil) by selecting "Self Services" and then "My Medical."

The Ultimate Warrior community has the HOOAH Bodies community filled with real-time classes, presentations and dietary

supplement alerts.

Keeping your health strong helps keep our Army Strong!

This article originally appeared online at www.crc.army.mil.

For more information on dietary supplements and other over-the-counter products visit the Office of the U.S. Surgeon General at www.surgeongeneral.gov.

For more information here in the Stuttgart military community call the Wellness Center at 430-4658/civ. 0711-680-4658.

HEALTH CARE CORNER

U.S. Army Health Clinic Stuttgart

Hours of Operation

Mon., Tues., Wed. & Fri.: 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Thursdays: 1 to 4 p.m.

Military Sick Call

Mon. to Fri.: 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.
Thursdays, 1 to 2 p.m.

Pharmacy

M, T, W, F: 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Thursdays: 1 to 4 p.m.

Immunizations

Walk-in basis
Closed noon to 1 p.m.

Well Baby Care

Every Tuesday

Laboratory

M, T, W, F: 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Thursdays: 1 to 4 p.m.

Physical Exams

Active-duty only (by appt.)
430-6817/civ. 0711-680-6817

Well Woman Care

Every Wednesday

Appointments

430-8610/civ. 0711-680-8610 or 430-8611/civ. 0711-680-8611
Tricare beneficiaries can also make appointments online.
Visit www.tricareonline.com.

Stuttgart Dental Clinic

Hours of Operation

Mon. to Fri.: 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. & 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Active-Duty Sick Call

Mon. to Fri.: 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

All Others Sick Call

Mon. to Fri.: 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Appointments

430-8626/civ. 0711-680-8626

Garmisch Dental Clinic

Hours of Operation

Mon., Wed & Fri: 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Tue: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. / Thurs: 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Military Sick Call

Mon. to Fri.: 7:30 to 8 a.m.

Appointments

440-3414/civ. 08821-750-3414

Note

In accordance with Army Regulation 40-3, dental services are limited to space-available care for other than active-duty servicemembers

**In case of an after-hours emergency call the MP desk to access the on-call patient liaison:
Stuttgart 430-5262/civ. 0711-680-5262 / Garmisch 440-3827/civ. 08821-750-3827**

Youth soar with SKIES Unlimited

Kindermusik summer camps set to begin in June

Story & photos by Brandon Beach

It could be the next all-toddler garage band. Here at the Patch School Age Services though, it's a typical day of Kindermusik.

Kids bang tambourines, clank sticks, beat drums and shake maracas. Each one of these rock n' roll toddlers is seated in their parent's lap. Instruments are passed to the right every 20 seconds.

To a spectator, standing just outside the circle, the noise level is deafening. With so much free-spirited percussion, the song can only end in a train wreck.

That's when Jennifer Buxkemper, the Kindermusik teacher, chimes in, "And now let's see how softly we can play," and faster than a finger snap, the decibel-level in the

I know that after Kindermusik we're more in tune with each other. We're more loving.

Debbie Sonnenfeld
Mother

room drops suddenly.

The word play between "loud" and "soft" in this case is brought out through song.

"Kindermusik promotes literacy," said Buxkemper, a certified teacher for over six years. "It helps children become better learners."

Learning through music has been the goal of Kindermusik since its infancy in the 1960's. The program was developed by a group of music educators from West Germany. In 1976, the program landed in the United States and has been a staple of early



Four-year old Rebecca Rosengard races around the room with hand-held bells during "Imagine That," a Kindermusik class for preschoolers held Tuesdays on Patch.

childhood education ever since.

"I don't know how many Van Cliburns I'll have, but that's not really the point," said Buxkemper. "Music is the means, not the goal."

Here in Stuttgart, Kindermusik ranks in under the Child and Youth Services SKIES Unlimited banner.

The program is broken down into three semesters of 15 weeks each, starting with "Village" for newborns up to 18 months. "Our Time" corals the toddlers together, while "Imagine That" has activities for children up

to 5 years old.

During an afternoon session of "Imagine That," four-year old Lindsey Cobb and her friend, Rebecca Rosengard, skate around a carpeted room on paper plates while a classical waltz plays from a CD-player.

Later in class, the two preschoolers race around the room with hand-held bells shouting, "thunder," as timpani drums erupt during a passage of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony. Music and movement go hand in hand.

"Kindermusik has activities that help with balance and coordination," said Buxkemper.

That same philosophy goes for the babies in the "Village" classes. Here, just as in "Our Time," parents and children dance and sing side by side.

In the children's song, "On the Bridge to Avion," for example, there is a line that goes, "Clap up high. Clap down low. Turn around now." Mimicking the words, Debbie Sonnenfeld raises the arms of her daughter, Caitlin, age 16 months, high into the air, then back down, and they twirl in a full circle.

Even for a 16-month old child, the words "high" and "low" resonate with meaning.

"We take it for granted, but it's amazing what a child learns from the minute they're born to age five," said Buxkemper. "They take everything in and remember it."

Buxkemper's jukebox of Kindermusik CD's is filled with literally hundreds of catchy sing-along tunes from cowboy rhymes to jingle bell jams. During a Latvian lullaby, mothers hold their babies in their laps and massage their shoulders, fingers and toes.

"It's a time for me and her. During Kindermusik, I'm completely focused on her," said Sonnenfeld. "She has my complete attention, and she knows it. I know that after Kindermusik, we're more in tune with each other. We're more loving."

HOW TO ENROLL

Kindermusik summer camps will be held June 11 to 15, 9:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., for three different age groups. Classes run for 45 minutes.

"Village" is 9:30 to 10:15 a.m.; "Our Time" is 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.; and "Imagine That" is 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. on Patch and 2 to 2:45 on Kelley.

For more information or to register your child call 430-5606/civ. 0711-680-5606 or stop by the CYS Registration Office on Patch.



photos by Tom Arholdt

A youngster tries to strike the ball through the target April 27. The game was one of many fussball-related games set up by CYS staff.

New soccer fields open near Panzer Kaserne

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Stuttgart-area youth now have a new place to kick the soccer ball.

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Commander Col. Kenneth G. Juergens, along with Andreas Brand, first mayor of Böblingen, and Professor Gustav Schoder, president of Sport Vereinigung Böblingen, took part in a ribbon-cutting ceremony April 27.

"The soccer community is just thrilled," said Mark Gardiner, commissioner of minors league in Stuttgart. "We were fortunate that Col. Juergens was able to find some money and make it a priority."

"We lost a significant amount of green space when the Mall [AAFES "Mall for All"] was created," said Gardiner, who added that with more than 850 youth



A bird's eye view of the new soccer fields located on a portion of Panzer's Limited Training Area.

participating in both the fall and spring seasons, soccer is the largest Child and Youth Services' sport in Stuttgart. "When you compare soccer to all the other sports combined, it's almost twice."

Following the official part of the ceremony, Child and Youth Sports teams raced out onto the field with local sport

clubs from Böblingen for an afternoon of "fussball" fun.

A variety of games was set up by the staff of the Stuttgart Child and Youth Services.

The USAG Stuttgart Directorate of Public Works had a large role in the realization of this project, added Juergens.

Lt. Dan Band salutes Soldiers with concert on Panzer

Sinise steps off stage, attends various events throughout Stuttgart



USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Actor Gary Sinise and members of his Lt. Dan Band played a free concert in Stuttgart May 11 on Panzer Kaserne.

The event was hosted by the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart, Armed Forces Entertainment and the USO.

On May 10, Sinise, along with garrison representatives, had a chance to enjoy the kind of liter-sized spoils only found at Stuttgart's Frühlingsfest (Spring Festival), which is held every year at the Canstatter Wasen.

The next day, on Friday morning, Sinise got some hands-on training at the Panzer's KD Range compliments of members of the 1/10th Special Forces Group (Airborne).

A morning of target practice, sniper shooting demo and a close quarters combat exercise concluded with lunch at the Panzer Dining Facility where Sinise had the chance to sign autographs, pose for pictures and talk with numerous troops, including Lt. Col. Francis Beaudette, commander of 1/10th SFG (A).

Later that afternoon, Sinise joined Brett Harwood, director of the Stuttgart Theatre Center, on stage for a question and answer session reminiscent of "Inside the Actor's Studio."

Some 120 students from Patch High School, International School of Stuttgart and Filderstadt Musik Schule were in attendance.

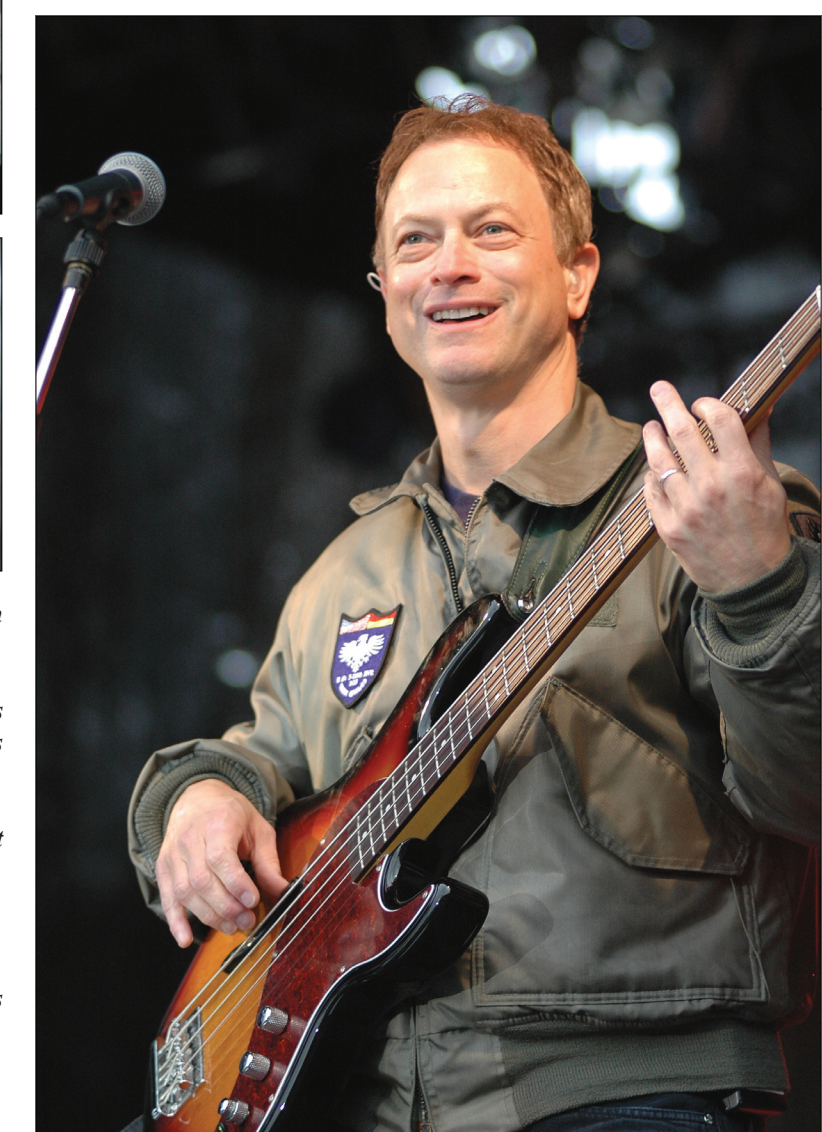
That night, Sinise and his band played in front of a crowd of more than 750 community members who came out with their lawn chairs, blankets and coolers. The band rocked for over two hours playing a string of covers and original songs. The concert was held on the parking lot in front of the Panzer Community Center.

Following the concert, Maj. Anthony Black of USAG Stuttgart presented Sinise with a plaque of appreciation from Col. Kenneth G. Juergens, commander of USAG Stuttgart, and the community.

Later, inside the "Mall for All," Sinise and band members signed autographs, posed for snap shots and talked with fans well into the night.

This was Sinise's third stop on a six-date tour of military bases throughout Europe. He had previously played in Ansbach and Hofenfels.

For more information about upcoming USO tours visit www.armed-forcesentertainment.com. For more on the Lt. Dan Band visit the band's official Web site at www.ltdanband.com.



[Left] Best Known for roles in "Forrest Gump" and "Apollo 13," Gary Sinise (right) discusses his work as an actor during a May 11 stop at the Kelley Theatre. Kelley Director Brett Harwood moderated the event.

[Far Left] Master Sgt. Ken Butcher (right) of the Panzer-based 1/10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) gives Sinise some instruction on firing a nine-millimeter Beretta pistol at the KD Range, while [Top Left] Sinise shakes hands with Soldiers of the 1/10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) May 11.

[Top] Lt. Commander Andrew Hollier of U.S. European Command was pulled on stage by Mari Anne Jayme, vocalist for the Lt. Dan Band, to sing a duet of Aretha Franklin's "You Make Me Feel Like a Natural Woman."

[Above Left] Band Leader James Komo Williams plays the banjo during one of the band's many numbers.

[Top Right] All aboard! Julie Dutchak leads a group of kids through the crowd, while [Above Right] Gina Gonzales strums a tune on her guitar.

[Right] Gary Sinise smiles out to the crowd of over 750 Soldiers, civilians and their families May 11.

- All photos by Brandon Beach.



Britney Teasley of 52nd Signal was voted most outstanding women's boxer during the U.S. Forces Europe Boxing Championship held April 29 on Patch.



[Above] Shawn Sullivan of USAG Kaiserslautern waits in his corner during the second round of his light middleweight match as the referee gives his opponent, Ricardo Medina of USAG Grafenwoehr, his third and final standing eight count. Sullivan won the championship bout



[Left] Ivan Kovalev of the Panzer-based 1/10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) gets some advice in between rounds from his ring coach Ron Lampert. Kovalev went on to win the match April 29.

U.S. Forces tourney packs a punch on Patch

Europe's top boxers contest for championship crowns

Story & photos by Brandon Beach

An hour before his welterweight championship bout, Cedric Benson skipped rope on the track just outside the Patch Barracks Fitness Center April 29.

"I'm a little nervous," he said. "It's exciting though. It's just you and the other man out there."

A Soldier with C Co. 123rd, Benson was one of several boxers making their ring debut in this year's U.S. Forces Europe Boxing Championship in Stuttgart.

Boxers arrived for weigh-ins April 26. Qualifying bouts took place Thursday and Friday in a round-robin format. Boxers had a rest day on Saturday to prepare for the eight championship bouts scheduled on Sunday. Bouts were contested over three two-minute rounds.

Giessen's Jacob Hasbrouck entered the finals of the lightweight category with a 2-0 record. An avid martial arts enthusiast, Hasbrouck said he joined his unit's boxing team to improve his hand speed and soon became "hooked" on the sport.

In this case, hooked is an understatement. For the last five months, Hasbrouck has trained twice a day, seven days a week beginning with a 5 a.m. five-mile jog. At the end of his duty day, he works on the speed bag, spars in the ring, lifts weights and climbs stairs.

"He's eager to learn," said Sgt. First Class Mark Preston of HHC 1/36th, his coach. "He can go far. It's hard to find that kind of dedication."

His extra conditioning paid off on Sunday. He caught Jessie Palamino of Grafenwoehr

I think it was a right that wobbled him. He was going down, so I just threw a couple more punches and hoped for the best.

Christian Meyers
Boxer

square on the face in the first round, opening up a nasty nose bleed. The bell saved Palamino, but not for long. The referee stopped the contest 45 seconds into round two, despite a bloody Palamino, who pleaded, "Come on, man. I'm still having fun."

Hasbrouck won the bout and was voted the tournament's most outstanding male boxer.

As with most of the boxers on Sunday, Hasbrouck's story was not uncommon.

Edward Garcia said there isn't a moment that boxing isn't on his mind. He spends most of his free time at the Panzer Kaserne Fitness Center, where, since September of last year, he trains with several other boxers from the 1/10th Special Forces Group (Airborne).

"It's a nerve racking experience to step in that ring," said Garcia, one of four Stuttgart boxers who won championship bouts on Sun-

day. "But I love the chance to knock someone out in front of a lot of people."

In his light heavyweight matchup, Garcia locked horns with Grafenwoehr's Carlos Lebron in a bout that went the distance. The two boxers dodged jabs and exchanged body shots for three rounds, before the judges awarded Garcia a 4-1 decision and the crown.

"I was timing him pretty good," said Garcia afterwards. "But I also missed a lot. I got just enough to win and that's what counts."

Stuttgart's Christian Meyers landed just the right punch to win his championship bout against Heidelberg's Anthony Watson. The two heavyweights threw a barrage of punches at each other midway through round two. An exhausted Watson dropped his head and backed up against the ropes when Meyers stepped in for the finish.

"I think it was a right that wobbled him," said Meyers, who at 34 was the oldest competitor of the tournament. "He was going down, so I just threw a couple more punches and hoped for the best."

In the welterweight championship, Benson kept his nerves in check but lost to Kaiserslautern's Roberto Figueroa in three rounds with a 5-0 decision.

On the women's side, Britney Teasley of Stuttgart had just enough pace to outlast Rosalee Gordon of Kaiserslautern in three rounds to win the middleweight title. She was voted the tournament's most outstanding women's boxer.

With 31 points, Stuttgart

boxers took home top team honors edging out squads from Grafenwoehr (22) and Wiesbaden (19). Boxers from six different U.S. Army garrisons competed.

At the close of the tournament, Gen. William E. Ward, deputy commander of EUCOM, handed out trophies to the top three teams and to the two MVP boxers.

"Unfortunately, we couldn't match up all the weight classes," said Steve Sanders, assistant sports director of USAG Stuttgart. "We still had a great championship with these eight bouts."

Amanda Krogh of Wiesbaden, Rex Apaghy of Giessen, Daemont Johnson of Kaiserslautern and Botiv Slavov of Stuttgart went uncontested in their respective weight classes.

The U.S. Forces Europe boxing schedule resumes June 23 with the Battle of the Titans in Stuttgart.

For details on this one-day tournament, call the Patch Fitness Center at 430-7136/civ. 0711-680-7136.

U.S. Forces Europe Boxing Championship 2007 Stuttgart Champions

First Place Team

- Middleweight: **Britney Teasley** - women's MVP
- Light Middleweight (Masters): **Botiv Slavov**
- Light Heavyweight: **Edward Garcia**
- Heavyweight: **Christian Meyers**
- Super Heavyweight: **Ivan Kovalev**

USAG STUTTGART presents

RUNNERS WANTED.

NEW
CATEGORY:
UNIT TEAM
COMPETITION

2007 COBBLESTONE CLASSIC

**9 JUNE 2007
10 A.M. PATCH
HUSKY FIELD**

**RACE IS 7.5K & FOLLOWS
THE HISTORIC TANK TRAIL
FROM PATCH TO PANZER**

**POST RACE AWARDS CEREMONY
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**MUST BE 10 YEARS OR OLDER
INDIVIDUALS: \$15 FAMILY: \$25**



FOR MORE INFO, CALL PATCH FITNESS CTR, DSN 430 7136 OR CIV. 0711 680 7136



AAFES adjusts operating hours for many food facilities in Stuttgart

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

A new food court on Panzer Barracks and temporary shifts in residential areas, have caused various AAFES food outlets in the Stuttgart community to make adjustments to their hours of operation.

“With the opening of the Panzer Shopping Mall and its food court, we have had a loss in sales at the Patch food facilities,” said Leonilla Muslin, AAFES general manager. “We also encountered a drop in sales at Robinson Barracks when the housing units went under renovation.”

Because of the loss in sales, Muslin added that a reduction in operating hours will be required at various AAFES facilities throughout the Stuttgart community.

Some of these changes will result in Subway not being open on Saturday or Sunday. There will be a reduction in the operating hours of Baskin and Robbins both weekdays and weekends; closing two hours earlier. Robinson Barracks CX will be closed now on Tuesdays and Wednesdays versus being open all week. They will also open two hours later on Saturday and Sunday and close an hour earlier on weekdays when they are open. Muslin said that she would review the hours when housing units are reoccupied (late this fall).

Panzer Mall’s Charley’s will no longer offer an American style breakfast, and they will open

later at 10:30 a.m. Sehne German Bakery will still open at 7 a.m. for a German-style breakfast. With the exception of the Beauty and Barber Shop, the concession shops in the Panzer Mall will reduce their hours of operations and open one hour later than before.

A similar decline in sales earlier this past and current year caused AAFES to reduce operating hours at various food outlets in the community. In some cases such as last summer with the Robinson Barracks Pizza Hut and earlier with the Kelley Barracks Charley’s Steak House; the facilities were closed completely. Currently, there are no AAFES food outlets on Kelley Barracks or Robinson Barracks with the exception of the shoppette which offers hot dogs and such for sale.

“A decline in the sales does not mean there is not a need for food outlets at these locations,” said Col. Kenneth Juergens, USAG Stuttgart commander. “The garrison Morale Welfare and Recreation directorate has now hired a contractor who will provide food services to both Robinson and Kelley Barracks and the food service should be operating soon.”

A story outlining the operations of the new contractor will be featured in the next issue of the Citizen newspaper.

The following is a listing of the new operating hours now in effect for various AAFES facilities in the Stuttgart communities.

Poor judgment call creates confusion for youth on shuttle bus

USAG Stuttgart
Public Affairs Office

During a recent routine shuttle bus run from Patch Barracks to Robinson Barracks, the bus driver received a frantic cell phone call from his 74-year-old mother, who was only a short distance away, asking for his help. On the shuttle bus were two young passengers.

The driver decided to go to the aid of his mother and mentioned to the two youth that he needed to take the shuttle bus on a short detour to Kornwestheim, which was on their way to Robinson Barracks.

While the driver was helping his mother inside her house, the two youth were calling their parents, explaining the situation and expressing their concerns. Within minutes, the driver returned to the shuttle bus and was able to talk with one of the parents using the youths’ cell phone to help explain what had happened.

The next day, the youth were taken to the Military Police station by their parents and wrote out statements about the situation. The driver also reported to the MP station and provided an official statement.

An investigation into the incident was conducted by the Military Police, Staff Judge Advocate, the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, the German Works Council and appropriate command leadership to ensure the driver had not committed any criminal actions and if necessary, proper punishment be

“Other than this isolated incident, the driver has an exemplary record and has been an outstanding employee with us for many years.”

Ray Eden
USAG Stuttgart

administered .

The investigation revealed that the driver had not committed any criminal offenses and has had an outstanding driving and working record for many years, however, he did receive punishment for his actions.

“The driver exhibited poor judgment in this instance and was removed from duty for two weeks and put on another bus route,” said Ray Eden, USAG Stuttgart, Directorate of Logistics, Transportation Officer.

The driver also received a formal letter of admonition, which was placed in his personnel file.

“The letter of admonition is the highest disciplinary action next to removal that an employee of his status can receive,” said Eden. “Other than this isolated incident, the driver has an exemplary record and has been an outstanding employee with us for many years. He realizes that he made a bad decision and feels terribly about not being able to better communicate his urgency with the youth and their parents that day.”

New operating hours for Stuttgart AAFES locations

LOCATION	OLD HOURS	NEW HOURS
Burger King (Patch)	Mon to Fri, 7 to 7; Wknd, 8 to 7	Mon to Fri, 7 to 6; Wknd, 9 to 5
Taco Bell (Patch)	Mon to Fri, 1030 to 7; Wknd, 1030 to 7	Mon to Fri, 1030 to 7; Wknd, 1030 to 5
Anthony’s Pizza (Patch)	Mon to Fri, 1030 to 7; Wknd, 1030 to 7	Mon to Fri, 1030 to 7; Wknd, 1030 to 5
Subway Shop (Patch)	Mon to Fri, 10 to 7; Wknd, 10 to 7	Mon to Fri, 1030 to 8; closed wknd
Baskin Robbins (Patch)	Mon to Fri, 11 to 7; Wknd, noon to 6	Mon to Fri, 12 to 5; Wknd, noon to 4
Robinson Barracks CX	Mon to Fri, 12 to 8; Wknd, 10 to 7	Thurs to Mon, 12 to 7; closed Tues/Wed
Charley’s Grill (Panzer)	Mon to Fri, 7 to 7; Wknd, 8 to 7	Mon to Fri, 1030 to 7; Wknd, 1030 to 7
Sehne Bakery (Panzer)	Mon to Fri, 7 to 7; Wknd, 9 to 7	No change.

Stuttgart Rugby Club completes perfect season

Squad looks to rise to second league with playoffs May 20

Story & photo by Brandon Beach

Already this year's Baden-Württemberg League Champions, the Stuttgart Rugby Club capped a perfect 10-0 season run with a 70-10 romp over Heidelberg May 6.

Playing on home turf at Degerloch's Sportplatz Hohe Eiche, Stuttgart ran up the scoreboard with 11 tries, six goals and a penalty kick. After 80 minutes of bone-crunching play, Heidelberg found Stuttgart's in-goal area just one.

In a show of rugby "tradition," Heidelberg players recognized the lopsided result by stripping off their uniforms after the game and slipping on string panties. Stuttgart players, in turn, extended to them a case of cold German beer.

"We have been nothing but solid on defense all season long," said Deane Shephard, coach of the Stuttgart squad. This season Stuttgart outscored its opponents 433 to 35.

Following the win, Stuttgart ruggers travel to Frankfurt May 20 to compete in a four-team playoff against the top regional clubs from Bayern, Hessen/Rheinland-Pfalz and Niedersachsen. The winner earns a right to play in the second league south division.

"If we're beating everyone in this league, it's time to move up," said Bart Randall, one of 10 Americans who play on the team. Last year, the squad finished second in the standings behind Karlsruhe.

Team seeks players

Stuttgart boasts a long history of rugby action in the community, dating back as far as 1934. In 1990, the club seized its first South German Championship crown and advanced to the first league. The team has an array of international talent with players from Wales, England, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, France, Poland, Romania, Hungary, Italy and the United States.

"The best part about playing for this team is the cultural interaction," said Randall. "It adds to the charisma of the team. Everyone brings their own style to the field."

On the coaching front, with so many international ruggers, getting down to the bolts of the game brings a whole new dimension.

"It's a challenge to coach such a diverse group, just in terms of playing styles, languages and skill levels," said Shephard. "But from this diversity comes a very strong and



American Bart Randall looks to pitch the ball back to a teammate as a Heidelberg defender holds on May 6.

'We have been nothing but solid on defense all season long.'

Deane Shephard
Stuttgart Coach

competitive team."

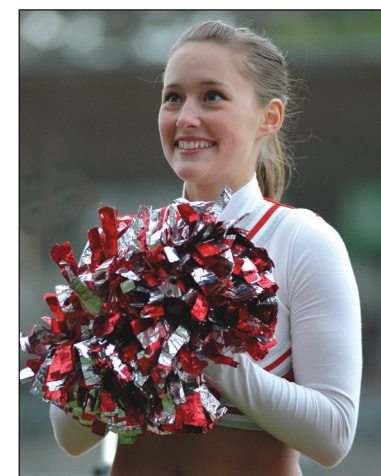
With both a men's and women's team, Stuttgart RC is always looking for new players to join its Wednesday and Friday night practices held 7 to 9 p.m. in Degerloch. Practice fields are located behind Daimler Chrysler and minutes from Kelley Barracks.

No experience is required to enjoy the fast moving and exciting sport of rugby.

For more information about rugby in the Stuttgart area, e-mail Deane Shephard at deane.shephard1@us.army.mil or visit www.rugby-stuttgart.de.



Stuttgart stayed a step above the competition all season long capping off a 10-0 record with a 70-10 win over Heidelberg May 6. Tristan Jorbert gets a boost from Mark Baur, one of 10 Americans on the team, during a line out.



American football returned to Stuttgart as the Scorpions opened their 25th-season in the German Football League with a 14-7 win over Schwäbisch Hall May 6 in Degerloch.

Scorpions open season with win

Story & photo by Brandon Beach

The Stuttgart Scorpions opened their season in the German Football League with a 14-7 win over the Schwäbisch Hall Unicorns in Degerloch's Gazi Stadium.

The Scorpions extended an unbeaten run to 2-0, following a preseason win over the Düsseldorf Panthers April 21.

For the Scorpions, 2007 marks 25 years of hard-hitting football here in Baden-

Württemberg. The team has scheduled a number of events to celebrate the milestone, including American Day (date to be announced).

The Scorpions next home game is against league rivals Marbach Mercenaries May 19, 6 p.m., in Degerloch's Gazi Stadium. The season concludes with the German Bowl Oct. 6 in Stuttgart.

For more information, visit www.stuttgart-scorpions.de.

Free Tennis Clinics

May 21 - 24
4-5 & 5-6 p.m.

Open to all skill levels. Clinics will be held on the Patch Barracks courts.

For details 430-7136/civ.0711-680-7136.



Local Girl Scout troop partners with animal shelter in Boeblingen

By Cheryl Gordon

Girl Scout Junior Troop 292 recently collected over \$700 along with numerous cans of pet food, pet treats and pet toys for donation to the Boeblingen Tierheim (animal shelter).

The girls have worked with the shelter since the start of the school year, as part of their Bronze Award.

Additionally, the troop collected blankets and towels from the Panzer and Patch Thrift Shops and donated hand-made pet toys. As part of their Bronze Award, Troop 292 learned about the types of pet breeds, researched the cost of pet care, volunteered hours at the shelter and discussed topics such as pet overpopulation.

For their part, the shelter helped the girls learn about pet care and to be responsible pet owners.

The project was featured in several



Members of Troop 292 collected pet-related items at the Patch Barracks Commissary last month.

German newspapers from the Boeblingen area.

Troop 292 thanks the community for such generous support of their efforts.

For more about Girl Scouts in Stuttgart e-mail peoplesp@eucom.mil or visit www.girlscouts.org.

Patch High School students make a difference, new shuttle begins May 15

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Each quarter Col. Kenneth G. Juergens, commander of U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart, meets and treats students from Patch High School to lunch to discuss current issues and concerns.

During a Feb. 14 youth forum, Maurice Green, a senior at PHS, and a resident of Robinson Barracks, brought up the need for a weekend shuttle from RB to Panzer Kaserne.

At the time, the only route available for residents of Robinson ran from RB to Patch to Panzer.

Juergens forwarded the idea to USAG Stuttgart Directorate of Logistics.

The new bus route avoids the Patch stop-over and began May 15.

Background of forum

The mission of the forum is twofold, according to Juergens, who meets with students on a quarterly basis.



Col. Kenneth G. Juergens [middle] poses with students from the Feb. 14 youth forum. Maurice Green (far right) helped establish the new bus route that now runs from RB directly to Panzer.

Not only does it help the command identify issues of concern, similar to the Army Family Action Plan conference, as Juergens pointed out, but "it teaches students leadership because they are talking on behalf of their peers."

For more information about the forum, contact Joyce Kennedy, USAG Stuttgart schools liaison officer, at 430-7465 or civ. 0711-680-7465.

Stuttgart's DARE students honored for efforts

Graduation celebrations held in area elementary schools

SNAP Release

Nearly 175 fifth-grade students completed Drug Abuse Resistance Education during the winter school term at all three Stuttgart area elementary schools.

On April 5, 92 fifth-grade students from Patch Barracks Elementary School graduated from the DARE program during a ceremony held in the Patch Barracks Theater.

"I believe it is very important that the children of the future be given the opportunity at a early age to learn the skills and obtain the knowledge about how to make healthy and wise choices when faced with pressure to use drugs and how to avoid violence," said Ernest Epps, instructor for the DARE program and coordinator of the Stuttgart Safe Neighborhood Awareness Program.

"Utilizing the DARE decision-making model (Define, Assess, Respond, and Evaluate) helps students make the right choice," added Epps.

The DARE program curriculum is taught in nine weeks, and students learn how to cope with the pressures associated with adolescence.

"Parents are concerned about drugs in today's society and they have every right to be; it's a reality that every parent must face," said Epps. "We have to do everything we can to encourage all children to stay drug free and teach them that there are other fun and healthy things that they can do that do not involve drugs and violence."

Between 70 and 90 percent of crime in the United States is drug related, so it is absolutely vital that children are taught before it's too late, added Epps.

During the graduation ceremony, USAG Stuttgart Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Q. Barry, in his remarks, discussed the importance of making healthy life choices.

"I would also like to thank Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Landwehr, Mr. Stine and Mrs. Gadeck [all fifth-grade teachers at Patch] for

We have to do everything we can to encourage all children to stay drug free.

Ernest Epps
DARE instructor

their support of this program and helping to get this information to kids," said Epps.

During the ceremony, students received a DARE Certificate of Completion, gold graduation lapel pins and a goodie bag containing t-shirts, pens, pencils, stickers and key rings.

Students were also recognized for their entries in the DARE essay contest and received the following prizes:

- First Place: DARE Medallion, red essay winner ribbon pin and a DARE briefcase bag.
- Second Place: Red essay winners ribbon pin and a DARE sport bag.
- Third Place: Red essay winners ribbon pin and a DARE writing portfolio.

The following winners were announced during the ceremony:

Mrs. Thompson's Class:

- 1st - Amy Hoffmeier
- 2nd - Briana Matlock
- 3rd - Justin Uzzelle

Mrs. Landwehr's Class:

- 1st - Elizabeth Sousa
- 2nd - Monae Archibeque
- 3rd - Mary Gorry

Mr. Stine's Class:

- 1st - Elaine Pennington
- 2nd - Robert Anderson III



The four winners of the DARE essay contest, along with 88 other Patch Elementary School students, were honored during an April 5 ceremony in the Patch Theater.

- 3rd - Sara Stevens
- Mrs. Gradeck's Class:**
- 1st - Hannah Lindsey
- 2nd - Robyn Smith
- 3rd - Camden McGregor

At the close of the ceremony, Epps lauded the many Stuttgart organizations for their support of the DARE program including: Local elementary school principles and assistants; all Stuttgart area Parent Teacher Association branches; Jackuelyn Nasca, president of the Stuttgart PTA, who played an integral part in raising funds for the program; Stuttgart Community Spouse Club (SCSC); American Legion Post 6; and, various other Stuttgart-based community private organizations.

For more about the Stuttgart DARE program, call Ernest Epps at 430-5560/civ. 0711-680-5560 or e-mail epps@6asg.army.mil.

ABOUT DARE

DARE was founded in 1983 in Los Angeles. It is now being implemented in 80 percent of U.S. school districts and in more than 54 countries around the world.

DARE is a police officer-led series of classroom lessons that teaches children how to resist peer pressure and live productive drug- and violence-free lives.

According to the DARE Web site, 36 million children around the world, 26 million in the U.S. alone, are part of the program.

It has received numerous accolades and awards for delivering the message to keep "kids off drugs."

- Source: www.dare.com.



Stuttgart's new Skateboard Museum, the first of its kind in Europe, pays tribute to those who devote themselves to the board.

A thrashin' ride through Stuttgart's skate museum

Story and photos by Brandon Beach

Remember the days of flip kicks and rail slides, when kids said "rad" and "tight" and nailed up rickety half-pipes in driveways? That four-wheeled craze gets a retrospective look in Stuttgart's new Skateboard Museum, the first of its kind in Europe.

"We are happy to bring something not so common to Stuttgart," said Daniel Schmid, who, along with Jürgen Blümlein, founded the museum.

With some 500 exhibit pieces, the museum, located in the basement of the *Kommunales Cinema*, is a jaunt through pop-culture history.

There are roller skates from the turn of last century, scooters from the 1930's, classic 50's sidewalk surfboards and numerous artifacts from the Bones Brigade era of the '80's. The artistry on the underbelly of some boards is simply amazing.

At the museum's entrance hangs an amusing diagram that traces the skateboard back to the covered wagon. If this was the official start of the modern skateboard, it's anyone's guess.

In another room there are several tan leather sofas in front of a large-screen television that streams continuous skate footage. Schmid confessed that he and his partner have amassed over 700 skateboard videos in their lifetime. "It could be the biggest in the world," he said.

Dust off your board if you want to grind on the museum's mini ramp.

Behind several glass cubes are pairs of shoes, mostly Vans, slumped-over from years of wear and tear on the street. They remind viewers that skateboarding meant more than just the board, it had its own style. Back then, you either

joined the jocks, nerds, bangers or skaters.

Schmid ranked in with the skaters, and said he still makes time for his board, even after some 20 years of bumps and bruises. Those two decades on pavement became seed for his museum project.

It started back in 2003, when Schmid and Blümlein toured Europe with a fledgling collection of boards and gear setting up 2-week exhibits in cities like Barcelona, Berlin and Zürich.

"The first stuff was really just leftovers from our own skate years," said Schmid. Since then, he said the exhibit has doubled in size, due in part to donations from friends and ex-skaters, including a huge boost from Claus Grabke, a German pro who skated for Madrid and Santa Cruz in the mid '80's. He loaned a career of boards and memorabilia for display.

Last summer, Schmid and Blümlein's extensive skate vault found a home at *Kommunales*. An unlikely spot, Schmid said he is happy to partner with the cinema.

Just last year, *Kommunales* held a screening of "Rising Son," the documentary about skate legend Christian Hosoi, whose signature move, the "Rocket Air," catapulted him to vert fame. An after-hours DJ party followed in the museum. Schmid said that more events like this are on the way.

Up next, Schmid and his partner plan a special exhibit on the history of skateboard magazines, due out this summer. In the coming months, they will unveil an exhibit on skate shoes in Frankfurt. Before year's end, they plan



A kid stunts an ollie at a skateboard park in Brussels, Belgium. The trick was invented by Alan Ollie Gelfand in the late 70's.

to publish a book on skateboarding's fabled history.

Even with all the talk of history and the so-called glory years of the skate scene, Schmid said that skateboarding is still very much active in Stuttgart.

"It's still a great scene," he said. "There is always an amazing flow of talent every year."

For more information visit the museum's official Web site at www.skateboardmuseum.de.

The museum is located on Friedrichstrasse 23A in the basement of *Kommunales Kino*, a cinema in downtown Stuttgart. To get there take U-train 9 to the Friedrichsbau stop.

OUT & ABOUT

Concerts in the Schleyerhalle

Bringing the sexy back to Stuttgart with his platinum-selling new album, "Future Sex/ Love Sounds," ex-NSYNC heart-throb Justin Timberlake takes to the stage **May 25**, 8 p.m., with his 14-piece band and a non-stop dance ensemble. Tickets cost 47,60 to 75,60.

With 80's classics such as "Summer of '69" and "Cuts Like a Knife," chart-topping balladeer Bryan Adams makes a stop in Stuttgart **June 6**, 8 p.m. Tickets cost 51 to 63 euro depending on seating.

If you still didn't get enough music flashback, rocker Meatloaf hits the stage, fresh off a new album, "Bat Out of Hell III, the third installment of his rock trilogy that dates back to 1977. His "Seize the Night" tour stops in the Schleyerhalle **June 19**, 8 p.m. Tickets cost 47 to 60 euro.

For more information or to purchase tickets for these and other shows visit www.schleyerhalle.de.

The hall is located at Mercedesstrasse 69 (U-Bahn 11: Gottlieb-Daimler Stadion stop).

Tori Amos at Theaterhaus

Grammy-nominated artist/pianist Tori Amos plays music from her new album "American Doll Posse" **June 10, 8 p.m.**, in Stuttgart's Theaterhaus. Her debut album, "Little Earthquakes," went on the sell more than two million copies worldwide.

For more information visit www.theaterhaus.de. The hall is located at Siemensstrasse 11, just minutes from Robinson Barracks (U-trains 5, 6 or 13 to Pragsattel). Tickets cost 30 euro and may be purchased at www.eventim.de.

Three Musketeers, the musical

SI Centrum's Palladium Theatre presents the swash-buckling musical smash, "The Three Musketeers."

Tickets range from 40 to 139 euro depending on seating and may be purchased by calling 01805-4444.

The theater is located on Pleningerstraße 100, which is a short 5-minute walk from the main gate on Kelley Barracks.

For more information on dates and times visit the SI Centrum online at www.si-centrum.de.

Fussball in Stuttgart

Catch live Bundesliga action when VfB Stuttgart takes on FC Energie Cottbus **May 19**, 3:30 p.m., in Bad Cannstatt's Gottlieb-Daimler Stadium (S-Bahn Neckarstadion). This is the last game of the season for VfB. The season resumes in August.

For tickets visit www.vfb-stuttgart.de or stop by the stadium's ticket box on game day.

DAZ events in May

Thomas Powers, an acclaimed journalist who is currently an Ellen Maria Gorrison Fellow at the American Academy in Berlin, will read selections from his new book, "The Courage of Crazy Horse: How an Oglala Sioux Interpreted the World" **May 16**, 7:30 p.m., in Stuttgart's Linden Museum, Hegelplatz 1. Powers has written several nonfiction books and has won a Pulitzer Prize for his articles. Cost is three euro.

Richard Pells, Ph.D., professor of history at the U.S. Embassy in Berlin, will deliver the lecture, "Transatlantic Misunderstandings: Anti-Americanism in Europe, Anti-Europeanism in America," **May 22**, 7:30 p.m., in the Deutsch-Amerikanisches Zentrum.

The center is located at Charlottenplatz 17 (U-Bahn 5 or 6). For a complete list of DAZ-sponsored activities visit www.daz.org or call 0711-22-8180.

Fashion exhibit at IFA

Germany's leading institute on foreign cultural relations is headquartered right here in Stuttgart.

This month, the Institute für Auslandsbeziehungen, or IFA, hosts the exhibit, "Mode Made in Magnolia," a visual journey through the fashion trends of the Orient. The gallery is located on Charlottenplatz 17. To get there, take city train U5 or 6 to the Charlottenplatz stop.

Opening hours are Tuesdays to Fridays, noon to 6 p.m., and weekends, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Additional evening hours are Thursdays until 8 p.m.

For more information visit www.ifa.de. The exhibit is open until **May 27**. Entrance is free.

U S A r m y G a r r i s o n S t u t t g a r t

ASIAN PACIFIC HERITAGE MONTH



*Pursuing Excellence through
Leadership, Diversity, & Unity*

- ★ **May 17, Panzer DFAC**
Observance of A.P.H.M with special menu
- ★ **May 18, Patch Gym**
1100-1300
**Asian Pacific Heritage
Month Main Event**
Guest Speaker:
Philippine Consul, Gary Auxilian
Asian food sampling, cultural performances
and essay contest winners announced.
- ★ **May 19, Panzer PX**
1345 Hawaiian, Ohana O'kaina Mau Loa
1430 Korean Dance
- ★ **May 19, Patch Commissary**
1500 Hawaiian, Ohana O'kaina Mau Loa



For more info, please call the EO office, 01622975922 or email chrysti.lassiterjones@eur.army.mil

2007

calendar of events